GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1440
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FEDERALISM
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fourth International Conference on Federalism was held recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken on the outcome of the meeting by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO H. GAVIT)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The deliberations of the Conference centred around four main themes, viz. Building on and Accommodating Diversity, Fiscal Federalism, Interaction is a Federal System and Local Government in Federal Systems.

These themes were further divided into three sub-themes each and each sub-theme focused on two generic issues. Each of the two issues per sub-theme was taken up for an interactive dialogue in parallel Work Sessions. The learnings from the Work Sessions were reported to four parallel Theme Sessions. The insights and learnings from these Sessions were presented in the final Plenary Session.

Background papers, speeches, analytical summaries, reports from each session have been compiled into a compendium for the benefit of practitioners of federalism academics, and civil society activists both Indian and International, for improving practice and thereby impact in the long run on governance. The success of the Conference also helps the Government of India in taking a lead role in shaping the international agenda on federalism and democracy.